

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 27 – 28, renumbered as 1 – 2 are allowed.

Claims 1-26 have been canceled.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of the record fails to anticipate or fairly suggest, a video encoding for performing motion compensation predictive encoding on input video picture having luminance and two color differences by selecting a combination of: (A) a reference picture, (B) a weighting factor which is prepared for each of luminance and two color differences and (C) an offset prepared for each of luminance and two color differences for each to-be-encoded block of the input video picture, and obtaining index information indicating the selected combination, and motion compensated prediction picture every to-be-encoded block is generated by adding the offset to the reference picture multiplied by the weighting factor in accordance with a motion vector every to-be-encoded block and generating predictive error signals every to-be-encoded block by calculating an error between the input video picture and the motion compensation prediction picture, and generating quantized orthogonal transformation coefficients every to-be-encoded block by subjecting the prediction error signals to orthogonal transformation and quantization, and encoding (1) the quantized orthogonal-transformation coefficients, (2) information of the motion vector and (3) the index information, as specified in independent claim 27, renumbered as claim 1, and similarly independent claim 28, renumbered as claim 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Behrooz Senfi whose telephone number is 571-272-7339. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Behrooz Senfi/

Application/Control Number: 10/754,535
Art Unit: 2621

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Primary Examiner
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